In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an extrusion casting system comprising a metal strand using ~~a continuous casting installation which has~~ at least one cooling device for cooling the strand, the cooling device being associated with ~~assigned~~ at least one reduction stand for reducing the thickness of the strand, the strand, which during the thickness reduction has a solidified skin and a liquid core, ~~said method~~ wherein the at least one ~~comprising setting the~~ cooling device is arranged ahead of the at least one reduction stand and cooling is adjusted by means of a temperature and solidification model so that a solidification boundary between the solidified skin and the liquid core ~~when the strand enters the reduction stand~~ corresponds to a predetermined set solidification boundary between the solidified skin and the liquid core when the strand enters the reduction stand.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising using the temperature and solidification model to determine the solidification boundary between the solidified skin and the liquid core as a function of the cooling of the strand, and determining the required cooling of the strand iteratively as a function of the predetermined set solidification boundary, iteration being repeated until any deviation in the solidification boundary from the predetermined set solidification boundary is less than a predetermined tolerance value.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising using at least one variable selected from the group of variables consisting of strand velocity, strand geometry, strand shell thickness, mold length, time, strand material, coolant pressure or volume, droplet size of the coolant and coolant temperature to determine the cooling of the strand as a function of the predetermined set solidification boundary.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising using the variables strand geometry, strand shell thickness, time, strand material, coolant pressure and volume, and coolant temperature to determine the cooling of the strand as a function of the solidification boundary.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising arranging at least two reduction stands downstream of the cooling device, and wherein the said at least two reduction stands are assigned a set solidification boundary between the solidified skin and the liquid core of the strand when it enters a reduction stand.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising taking into account the position of the solidification boundary between solidified skin and liquid core in the temperature and solidification model.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein modeling of the reduction in thickness produced by the reduction stand is carried out using at least one of the variables reduction force and degree of reduction in thickness.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein at least one of the variables reduction force and degree of reduction is measured in the reduction stand and is used to adapt the temperature and solidification model.

19. (Currently Amended) A continuous-casting installation for producing a metal strand, comprising at least one cooling device for cooling the strand and at least one associated reduction stand for reducing the thickness of the strand, and wherein the at least one cooling device is located ahead of the associated reduction stand, and further comprising a computing device for controlling the cooling of the strand by means of the cooling device, wherein a temperature and solidification model for setting a solidification boundary between a solidified skin and a liquid core of the strand when the strand enters the reduction stand is implemented in the computing device, and wherein the solidification boundary corresponds to a predetermined set solidification boundary between the solidified skin and the liquid core.